

*Silene vulgaris*

[Synonyms : *Behen alpinus*, *Behen angustifolius*, *Behen antelopum*, *Behen fabarius*, *Behen glareosus*, *Behen oleraceum*, *Behen puberulus*, *Behen trachiatus*, *Behen vesicarius*, *Behen vulgaris*, *Behenantha behen*, *Behenantha cserei*, *Behenantha glaucescens*, *Behenantha inflata*, *Behenantha saponariifolia*, *Cucubalus alpinus*, *Cucubalus angustissimus*, *Cucubalus antelopum*, *Cucubalus behen*, *Cucubalus inflatus*, *Cucubalus latifolius*, *Cucubalus littoralis*, *Cucubalus marginatus*, *Cucubalus montanus*, *Cucubalus personii*, *Cucubalus rotundifolius*, *Cucubalus saponariifolius*, *Cucubalus scaber*, *Cucubalus viridis*, *Elisanthe zawadskii*, *Oberna behen*, *Oberna commutata*, *Silene behen* var. *cucubalus*, *Silene cucubalus*, *Silene inflata*, *Silene inflata* var. *pubescens*, *Silene inflata* var. *vulgaris*, *Silene latifolia* var. *pubescens*, *Silene venosa*, *Silene vulgaris* forma *latifolia*, *Silene vulgaris* subsp *vulgaris*, *Silene wallichiana*, *Silene zawadskii*, *Viscago behen*]

**BLADDER CAMPION** is a perennial. Native to Asia, Europe (including Britain) and to the Mediterranean, it has small greenish-white flowers.

It is also known as *Ängsglim smällglim* (Swedish), *Behen*, *Béhen blanc* (French), *Bird's eggs*, *Blaas-Silene* (Dutch), *Bladder silene*, *Blæresmælde* (Danish), *Bubbolina* (Italian), *Bubbolini* (Italian), *Bull rattle*, *Campion*, *Champion*, *Cime di silene* (Italian), *Colleja* (Spanish), *Cowbell*, *Cow paps*, *Crusciot* (Italian), *Cuiet* (Italian), *Devil's rattle-box*, *Erba del cucco* (Italian), *Erva-traqueira* (Portuguese), *Fairy potatoes*, *Frothy poppy*, *Gemeines Leimkraut* (German), *Kiss-me-quick*, *Knap bottle*, *Llys y Poer* (Welsh), *Maiden's tears*, *Měchýřnatka nadmutá* (Czech), *Nurmikohokki* (Finnish), *Qasqejza* (Maltese), *Rattle bags*, *Rattle box*, *Sculpiti* (Italian), *Sea pink*, *Shira tamasou* (Japanese), *Silene bubbolina* (Italian), *Silène enflé* (French), *Silene rigonfia* (Italian), *Silène vulgaire* (French), *Silenka nadmutá* (Czech), *Sileno ŝvela* (Esperanto), *Smällglim* (Swedish), *Snappers*, *Snappery*, *Spattling poppy*, *Stridoli* (Italian), *Stridolo* (Italian), *Strigoli* (Italian), *Struthi* (Greek), *Taquet* (French), *Taubenkropf* (German), *Taubenkropf-Leimkraut* (German), and *White behen*.

The flowers are normally pollinated by night-flying moths.

*Vulgaris* means 'common'.

It is suggested that the name *Campion* is derived from a Latin word *campus* meaning an 'open plain or field' which is one of the plant's natural homes. A less well-known name for *campion* is *Champion* and some authorities suggest this may have arisen because the flowers were found in the chaplets and garlands bestowed on the winners at tournaments and public games.

In Cyprus the fried young shoots are eaten with eggs.